(e) No, Sir. Adequate candidates with revised and higher physical standards are available from all these regions.

Throwing out of passengers from the Farakka Express by armymen

808. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some armymen had thrown five passengers out of the Farakka Express at Sikohabad in Firozabad district in Uttar Pradesh on 23rd January, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Army has ordered a court of inquiry into the incident;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the inquiry report has since been received; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the accused armymen and the compensation paid to the next of kin of the victims?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) On 23.1.2005, some persons were allegedly pushed out from Train No. 3483 Farakka Express at Shikohabad Railway Station. At that moment Train No. 2393 Up Sampurna Kranti Express passed through and 5 of these passengers were run over by that train. The Army has ordered a Court of Inquiry to investigate involvement, if any, of any Army personnel. The report has not yet been received.

As regards compensation to the next of kin of the victims, the same is paid after a claim is filed in the Railway Claims Tribunal and a decree is awarded. Since no compensation claim has yet been filed by the victims'-families, no compensation has been paid.

Expansion plans of coast guard

809. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coast Guard has ambitious expansion plans for 2005-2006 and 2006-2007;

(b) whether the Coast Guard will also train its personnel during this period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Coast Guard is aware that a higher level of professionalism is needed for its personnel; and

(e) the steps proposed to improve the sensitivity and dedication in personnel of Coast Guard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The Indian Coast Guard is a growing service. Expansion plans of the Coast Guard are based upon its perspective plans, the available budgetary allocations and the charter of its duties.

The Coast Guard attaches a high degree of importance to the training of its personnel. It has activated an in-house training centre and is planning many training courses pertaining to the charter of duties of the Coast Guard.

Through its specific training modules as well as various administrative and welfare measures aimed to ensuring high morale of the Coast Guard personnel, the Coast Guard improves the sensitivity and dedication of its personnel towards its allocated tasks and the public.

Satellite for the Army

†810. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Army needs to have its own satellite to modernise it;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering of providing satellite to the Army;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) In the interest of national security considerations, the information cannot be divulged on the floor of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.